

Message

---

**From:** Nassif, Julianne (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=MASSMAIL-01/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JULIANNE.NASSIF]  
**Sent:** 3/27/2012 7:10:15 PM  
**To:** Corbett, Kate (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=MassMail-01/cn=Recipients/cn=Kate.Corbett]  
**CC:** O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=MassMail-01/cn=Recipients/cn=Elisabeth.O'Brien]  
**Subject:** RE:

Kate,

This sounds like a very unpleasant experience. I am checking with Legal for guidance.

Julie

---

**From:** Corbett, Kate (DPH)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2012 3:06 PM  
**To:** Nassif, Julianne (DPH)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH)  
**Subject:**

Hi Julie,

I had to go to Quincy yesterday afternoon for a Voir dire on the Com v [REDACTED] case. It was not the most pleasant experience I have had at court (to put it lightly). Frankly, it was downright awful. I was on the stand for approx 2hrs! It went far beyond qualifying me as an expert to testify at trial. The defense was hammering me with questions regarding Annie and the investigation. The ADA would object and the judge ruled 50/50 on whether she would have me answer or not. They were asking such things as: if I was being called as a witness to testify against her in a criminal trial; if I knew of criminal charges being brought against her; they were accusing her of being a drug user and that she was stealing drugs; they were saying that there was more than just a breach in protocol if the lab was willing to retest the samples. The questions that I was forced to answer I said either "no" or "I don't know", but the fact that I was forced to have to sit there and listen to this and then to have my credibility judged because of it is outrageous! This will not be the first or last time that I will be asked such things and it is just a matter of time before everyone here has to deal with something similar. Can you please give me a direction on how to deal with this type of questioning in the future?

Thanks,

Kate Corbett  
Chemist II  
Drug Analysis Lab  
Dept of Public Health  
305 South St.  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
phone (617) 983-6632  
fax (617) 983-6625